in finding out the whereabouts of these officers and, when found, in waiting for their convenience with all that the raiyats have to take the wood shown to them, whether it be good or bad. The Forest Officers show favor to those whom they like and the raiyats have no choice in the selection of wood. The matter should therefore be considered by Government.

Dewan's reply.—The necessary enquiries will be made.

Subject No. 254.

Strict enforcement of Rules regarding number and dimensions of bamboos cut under Licenses.

Summary of discussion.—A cart-load of Bamboos sold in the Woodyard is made up of 200 bamboos of 12 cubits in length each nominally, but they are actually of various lengths. While such is the case, people who are allowed to remove wood and bamboos from District Jungles are subjected to prosecutions by the Forest Department if the fixed dimensions vary by ½ to one cubit in length and 1 to 2 inches in thickness. The raiyats cannot be expected to be accurate in the measurements. Further the Forest Officers restrict the number of bamboos to 150 per cart-load in the case of licenses taken out from the Taluk Cutcherry. Order should issue to remedy these evils.

Dewan's reply.—Will be inquired into.

Subject No. 255.

Inconvenient proximity of Government Plantations to Villages and relief of Forest officers from the charge of Cattle pounds.

Summary of discussion.—At present Forest Plantations are formed and elephant pits are excavated close to villages within one to four furlongs. Into these pits cattle often fall and die. If perchance they enter into the Plantations, they are impounded and a fee of 3 or 4 annas per head is levied without any distinction as to age, &c., of cattle. The practice should be prohibited. Forest Plantations should generally be made in or near the State Forests where the soil is more favorable than near villages. The formation or extension of Plantations near villages should be prohibited and the Forest Officers should be divested of the charge of cattle-pounds.

Dewan's reply.—The Deputy Commissioner has been asked to see to this and if necessary, throw back the demarcation line. Plantation fences near villages should be strong and ditches dangerous to cattle should not be made.

Subject No. 256.

Restoration of Bidarhalli Anikat.

Summary of discussion.—The whole of Antarsante and Nemmanahalli Hoblis and portions of Kasaba and Sargur Hoblis contain only dry lands. There is no means whatever for wet cultivation. Failure of rains has resulted in the failure of even dry crops. Scarcity of water is felt generally and in the hot season people have to go 1, 2, 3 or 4 miles to fetch water and so they suffer. The raiyats.

The raiyats pray that the abandoned Anikat near Bidarhalli of this Taluk may be urgently taken in hand, and water supplied from Kapila river by restoring the Kalvés on both sides of the Anikat.

Dewan's reply.—Inexpedient. The Heggaddevankote Taluk presents several instances of the undesirability of channel irrigation in malarious tracts.

Subject No. 257.

Removal of restriction under Megalve Channel and Karigala Tank and grant of good supply of water through these sources.

Summary of discussion.—Lakshmantirtha is in itself a rivulet. The raiyats holding lands irrigated by its main channels, Udur Nala and Hanumantapur Nala, have been continually complaining of short supply of water and consequent loss of crops. The drainage water of the above channels trickles down through tracts of jungles to Hebhalla from which Megalve and Karigala Tank receive their supply of water. These are not fed by any river channel but all the lands under Megalve and Karigala Tank are assessed wet at the same rate as under the main channels. There was a strict order issued after a careful examination by Colonel Johnson and other Engineers that wet cultivation below Hanumantapur Nala should not be extended indiscriminately. This order remained in force till the Survey and Settlement. Since then, even Anâdi Banjar lands, not to speak of other dry lands, have been converted into wet. This has resulted in short crops to many raiyats and difficulty to Government. It is prayed that good supply of water should be given through Megalve and Karigala Tank and that strict orders should be issued prohibiting any increase in the wet cultivation.

Dewan's reply.—Extension of wet cultivation under the Hanagod series of channels in general and the Megalve in particular has been prohibited until the channels are improved.

Subject No. 258.

Needless restrictions on grazing in State Forests and useless fire protection.

Summary of discussion.—All the best portions of jungles have been reserved as State Forests by Government. In the portions marked as District jungles, large portions near villages have been converted into protected Forests. A loud protest was made against this but the raiyats were then promised that such forests would be set apart for grazing purposes. Now even these have been included in State Forests and cattle are forbidden from entering them. Grazing is allowed only on the condition that the owners of cattle undertake the clearing of fire lines. Clearing fire lines is a waste of labor and expense, because fire-protection has seldom proved sufficient protection from fire. The restrictions on grazing not only cause indescribable inconvenience to the raiyats but are also prejudicial to forest protection itself inasmuch as the grass grows high and thick and enables accidental fire to burn with all the greater destructive effect.